

Banning United Methodist Church

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023

† Congregation rises in body or spirit

Congregational response in bold

GATHERING MUSIC

CENTERING WORDS

God speaks from burning bushes and souls on fire. May God grant us eyes to see and ears to hear, as we worship this day.

PRELUDE

WELCOMING FRIENDS and NEWCOMERS

We ask that you please sign the attendance book, then pass it to the middle aisle. If you are here this morning as a guest, please include your address and phone number, so that we can reach out to you.

If this is your first time visiting and would like to introduce yourself, please raise your hand, and a microphone will be brought to you.

WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY MOMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

†CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We gather as a community of compassion and hope.

P: Jesus calls us to care for each other tenderly and willingly.

L: By this caring and sharing we will be known as followers of Jesus.

P: By our example, others may be led to lives of peace.

L: Lord, open our hearts and minds this day to Your word.

P: Teach us to serve You with all our gifts and talents. Amen.

†OPENING HYMN

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

UMH #128

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with us this day as we gather to encounter your word and your way for us. Remind us that we can place our trust in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and place us on the pathways of grace and service. These things we pray in Jesus’ name. AMEN.

PSALM READING

Psalm 26:1-8 NRSV

¹Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering. ²Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind. ³For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

⁴I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites; ⁵I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked. ⁶I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O LORD, ⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds. ⁸O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:21-28 NRSV

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMONIC HYMN "My Tribute" Summer Ensemble

SERMON "Deny yourself?" Pastor Doug

PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR and PEOPLE

Children in Prayer

(After all slides: In Your mercy, **Lord, hear our prayer**)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)

OFFERTORY

†**DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord, of all mercy and compassion, bless these gifts lovingly offered and all the people here. Help us to use these gifts for ministries of hope through our church and into our community, nation, and world. AMEN.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II Hymnal Page 12

COMMUNION HYMN "Let us Break Bread Together" Hymn #618

†**CLOSING HYMN** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH #431

†**BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE